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and the economic organization more important. The final outcome will be a semi-socialistic "freeman's citizenship," in which class interests have entirely disappeared.

While decidedly one-sided in its neglect of all factors save force in state origin and of all influences save the economic in state development, the book is a brilliant study of certain important phases of political evolution. The author errs in believing that the social-contact theory of state origin is still seriously held, and in considering the political and economic organizations of society as separable and antagonistic. The translation is unusually well done.

RAYMOND GARFIELD GETTELL.

Trinity College.

POND, OSCAR L. *Public Utilities*. Pp. liv, 954. Price, \$6.00. Indianapolis: Bobbs-Merrill Company, 1913.

This is a work of great merit that will be useful to practicing lawyers, state officials and members of public service commissions. At the present time over one-half of the states vest in a commission authority over most municipal and other utilities. A few cities have established municipal public utilities commissions. The activities of these public bodies and of the attorneys who appear before the commissions make such a work as that by Mr. Pond of especial value.

The early part of the volume contains chapters which consider in detail the legal powers of the municipalities, and discusses the legal questions connected with franchises and municipal contracts. Problems of taxation are also considered. The latter part of the book is concerned with problems of regulation of the services and charges of public service corporations. In the chapters upon municipal ownership, the author takes a conservative position, his view being that, "with an efficient regulation and control of the service furnished by municipal public utilities and the rates charged for it, the necessity for municipal ownership as a means of regulation and control in the majority of cases at least would disappear." The author, however, believes that each municipality should be in a position to adopt the policy of municipal ownership whenever conditions justify such a course.

The next to the last chapter of the book discusses and advocates municipal bureaus or commissions as a useful and necessary aid to the city in regulating public utilities. The final chapter of the book considers state public utilities commissions which are claimed by the author to be necessary. The state public service commission is required for the regulation of utilities outside of the big cities in which public utilities commissions may be justified. Even in the case of large cities it is desirable that the state should have such authority over public utilities as may be necessary to deal with interurban questions.

EMORY R. JOHNSON.

University of Pennsylvania.

RIVES, GEO. L. *The United States and Mexico*. Pp. xiv, 1446. Price, \$8.00. New York: Charles Scribner's Sons, 1913.

No branch of the foreign affairs of the United States is susceptible of such widely different interpretations as our relations with Mexico. The events

which led up to our war with that country have been variously pictured as a phase of our internal struggle with slavery and as an example of wanton aggression by a stronger upon a weaker power. Mr. Rives' two well written volumes treat the period leading up to the conflict and the struggle itself from a new viewpoint. His attitude is more impartial than that of those who lived through the troublous times of which they wrote and whose views were warped by their political beliefs or blurred by their nearness to the events. The author has a great advantage too, in that he writes at a time when the diplomatic archives of the countries chiefly interested, the United States, Mexico, Great Britain, and Texas, for the period have been thrown open to free examination.

It is a satisfaction to citizens of the United States to find in the new point of view thus made possible much material that contradicts the early indictments made against our national policies and those who took an active part in their framing. Instead of assuming the attitude of an aggressor the United States is shown to have exercised singular forbearance and self-control. The "watchful waiting" policy in relation to Mexican disturbances is by no means a new feature of our diplomacy. There was no American conspiracy involved in the annexation of Texas and in the Mexican war. The attitude of President Polk is shown to have been far from that generally attributed to him, and the policy of Great Britain is strongly contrasted with what the pro-slavery faction believed it to be. On the other hand the author does not overlook our mistakes, although he shows they were due oftener to ignorance and inability to understand a people of highly contrasted ideals and habits of life than to bad intent. Then as now the people of the United States looked upon Mexico as a country inhabited by a European race, to be judged by the standards of Europe and of English America. In fact, Mexico has always been a country of predominantly aboriginal stock whom the European immigrants have conquered but never expelled.

In order to put our relations with our southern neighbor in their proper setting the author allows himself frequently to digress into discussions of our domestic affairs and includes a rather disproportionate treatment of the Oregon controversy. The reader of the second volume cannot but feel that though intent to write a military history of the Mexican war is disclaimed, the attractions of the study of the campaign have been too great for the author to resist their description.

CHESTER LLOYD JONES.

University of Wisconsin.

THORNTON, W. W. *The Sherman Anti-Trust Act.* Pp. lxiii, 929. Price, \$7.50. Cincinnati: W. H. Anderson Company, 1913.

The consideration now given by Congress to amendments to the anti-trust law gives timeliness to Mr. Thornton's *Treatise on the Sherman Anti-Trust Act*. The work is a comprehensive and well-arranged textbook that must prove useful to practitioners and other students of law.

The volume starts with a good brief history of the enactment of the law. The authorship of the bill in its final form is, however, credited to Senator Hoar on the authority of Senator Hoar's "Autobiography;" but the evidence that